

second child. One of Dwight's greatest joys was being a father to their son, Alex.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Sergeant Dwight Morgan for sacrificing his life to protect the citizens of the United States. At a time when all citizens are being asked to be vigilant in a war that has struck our homeland, we should have a high regard for the courage and dedication of Dwight Morgan.

A TRIBUTE TO THE VICTIMS OF  
SEPTEMBER 11TH

**HON. STEPHEN HORN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 5, 2002*

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, the tragedy of September 11th touched all Americans in some way. Many of us in Congress lost people from the districts we represent.

Today, I would like to recognize one such man, John Hofer of Bellflower, California. Mr. Hofer was a passenger aboard American Airlines Flight 11, the hijacked flight that hit the north tower of the World Trade Center. He was on his way home to California from a golfing tournament on Cape Cod, Massachusetts. It was his first trip to the East Coast and he was excited about seeing a Boston Red Sox baseball game at Fenway Park.

John was known for his love of golf and was traveling with one of his golfing buddies, John Wenckus, 46, of Torrance, when their plane hit the World Trade tower. The two of them were regulars on the Skylinks Golf Course in Long Beach, California.

Mr. Hofer also was a businessman in his hometown of Bellflower. He owned John's Sharpening Center, a small business that sharpened pet-grooming tools. Mr. Hofer is survived by a daughter.

TRIBUTE TO MATT SMITH

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 5, 2002*

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank publicly a member of my District Office staff for years of exceptional service to me and to the residents of the Second Congressional District of Oregon.

Matt Smith has been steadfastly true to a legacy of selfless public service that has long been a tradition in the Smith family. As the son of Kaye and Chairman Robert F. (Bob) Smith, who served Oregon so effectively as a leader for 36 years in the Oregon House and Senate and then in the U.S. Congress, Matt was raised with the knowledge that the most meaningful rewards in life come from helping others. Countless Oregonians have benefited from Matt's advocacy on their behalf and from his role as an integral participant in helping me address issues in the district that have directly impacted thousands of hard-working Second District residents.

Whether stepping in to save a rancher's grazing permit or helping to hone the finer details of my legislation to save the Steens Mountain area from unwarranted national monument status, I have counted on Matt to

get the job done. He has been a loyal and dedicated public servant on such issues as saving the Elk Creek Dam from wasteful demolition and protecting lives and resources by keeping the Medford Air Tanker Base open.

Matt has brought to his work a bright mind and a natural ability to work well with others. Not only have the people I represent placed great faith in his abilities, but so have his co-workers. Matt has been a team player in every respect and could always be counted on to solve tough problems and help others to reach their potential. Perhaps most importantly, Matt is a dependable friend with a great sense of humor.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of what Matt has accomplished and am proud to have had him on my staff. For someone who looks up to his father as much as I do, it has been a delight to watch Matt grow and mature into a man who must make his father very proud. Matt's stellar career has not gone unnoticed by others and many new opportunities have presented themselves. This month Matt is going to follow his expanded horizons by taking a position with Smith-West, a distinguished government relations firm. I have every confidence that in Matt's new job he will continue his own strong record of public service.

Matt Smith will continue to help others and make Oregon a better place. He will continue to be an impact player and make a difference. I am sorry to see Matt leave and lose his invaluable assistance, but I am so very proud of what he has accomplished and the good work I know he will continue to perform.

I join Matt's coworkers in saying thank you and congratulations for a job well done. We will miss you as a colleague, Matt, but we know in our hearts that you will always be our friend.

OUR FRIENDS IN CANADA

**HON. HEATHER WILSON**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 5, 2002*

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, as Americans, we were all deeply moved when, during the days following September 11th our friends in Canada extended a helping hand to our shaken Nation. Our neighbors to the north deserve our thanks and praise for their enduring friendship.

The world watched as trans-Atlantic flights were diverted to Canadian airports in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. Personal accounts from constituents of mine, stranded in Canada because of the events of September 11th, show how remarkable the response was from the Canadian citizens who helped to care for stranded passengers. There were hot meals, showers, cots, blankets, and TV sets to watch the first news of what was happening back home. There were also teddy bears and "field trips" to local sights.

It is during these troubled times that you find out who your real friends are. Thanks to the service men and women, and also to the citizens of the great Nation of Canada for their kindness. Your hospitality will not soon be forgotten.

WASHINGTON, DC,  
*February 4, 2002.*

Lt. Cmdr. M.A. MORRIS,  
Commanding Officer, HMCS Cabot,  
St. John's, Newfoundland.

DEAR COMMANDER MORRIS: No one expected on the morning of September 11th what that day would be like. I expect that is especially true of you.

Ash and Susan Collins, two constituents of mine from Placitas, New Mexico, told me of your professionalism and kindness following the diversion of so many guests to your station.

I wanted to thank you for all you did for them and others in the same situation.

It is in the tough times that you find out who your real friends are. Thank you and your service men and women for your hospitality and kindness. We won't soon forget it.

Warm Regards,

HEATHER WILSON,  
Member of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, February 4, 2002.

Hon. MICHAEL F. KERGIN,  
Ambassador, Canadian Embassy,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR: I had read a few stories in the paper about how well Americans were treated by our Canadian friends in the days following September 11th. Two of my constituents, Ash and Susan Collins of Placitas, New Mexico, took the time to tell me of their personal experience.

It is in the tough times that we find out who our real friends are. Please accept my thanks to you and your countrymen for your kindness and friendship. We won't soon forget it.

Warm Regards,

HEATHER WILSON.

ASHTON B. COLLINS, Jr.,  
Placitas, NM, October 29, 2001.

Hon. HEATHER WILSON,  
House of Representatives, Cannon House Office  
Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR HEATHER: It was certainly good to be with you and Jay on Friday night. We appreciate your interest in our comments about the extraordinary response and support by Canadians on September 11.

On September 11, 2001, when U.S. and offshore airspace areas were closed, trans-Atlantic flights were diverted to Canadian airports in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. More than 17,000 persons from 136 planes landed in Newfoundland alone. We enclose a photo of the Halifax, Nova Scotia airport to illustrate the dimensions.

We were on one of the 27 wide-body airliners with a total of approximately 4,300 passengers and crews landing at St. John's, Newfoundland. The St. John's airport was under major construction and normally receives one jumbo jet daily. Passengers were held for several hours on their planes while Canadian authorities developed plans.

Ultimately, we were allowed to carry only wallets for men, purses for women and passports into the terminal. Upon deplaning in darkness, we were each greeted with a warm, "Welcome to Canada", a sandwich, liquids, and solid assurance that we would be cared for. And we were cared for with astonishing efficiency on the part of all Canadian authorities, agencies, public institutions, businesses, and individuals.

The Canadians' sense of solidarity with their American neighbors was and is an indelible memory. A lot of Americans learned a lot about their neighbors to the North in a hurry.

Here are a few highlights:

Individuals from all over Newfoundland pitched in, each in his own way. We "airplane people" slept in churches, convents,